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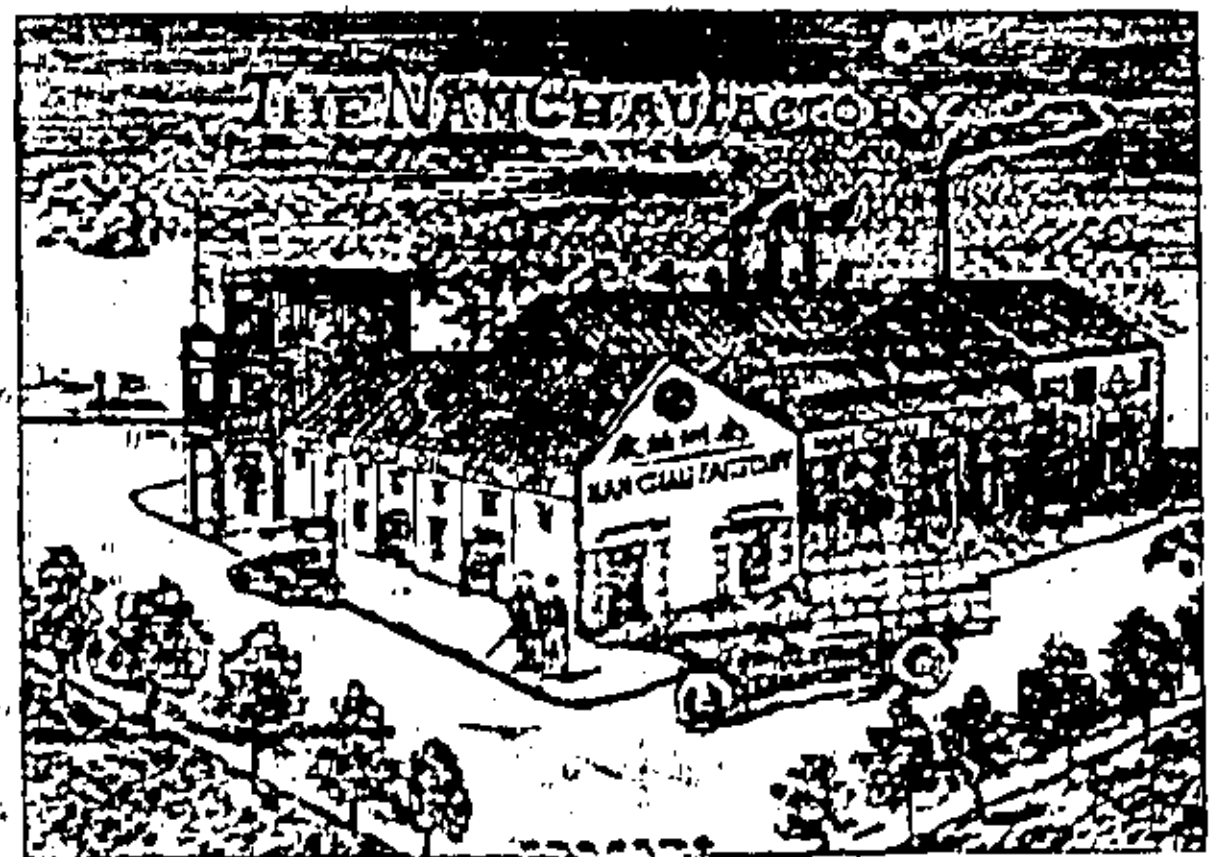
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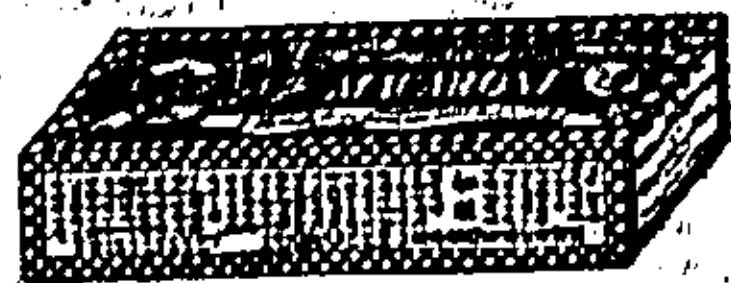
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OUR LONDON LETTER. PARLIAMENT, PUBLIC, AND NATIONAL FINANCES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, August 28th.

With the rising of Parliament for the Autumn recess it seems appropriate to refer to the legislative labours of the past Session. On the whole, the general opinion, as reflected in newspapers of every shade of party colour, is that the record is disappointing. Not that the legislative machine has been idle; on the contrary, there never was more activity in that respect. Bills galore have been introduced dealing with a variety of subjects such as housing, land settlement for ex-service men, the creation of a new Ministry of Health, and other matters indicating an almost feverish anxiety to justify the Coalition's intentions as summed up in the blessed word "Reconstruction," and to fulfil the Prime Minister's promise to make this "a land fit for heroes to live in."

The fly in the ointment is the absence of any visible attempt on the part of the Government to cut down expenditure. Mr. Lloyd George spoke for three hours on the eve of the adjournment, but he failed to say anything on this head which satisfies Parliament or the country. His speech was well advertised beforehand in the Government papers. Everyone was told to expect a clear and definite declaration from him as the Head of the Government. In the event there was nothing of the sort.

On this one question, which, more than any other, the public has been (and still is) waiting for a lead—the question of our financial position—the Prime Minister was obscure. In particular it was hoped that he would state by what means and to what extent economy would be enforced on the great spending Departments; not only was there no information about this, but there was no assurance that it will be attempted.

PRIME MINISTER'S EXPLANATION.

The fact that the Prime Minister has deemed it expedient, within a few days of delivering the speech referred to, to issue a long summary of "proposals and discussions" dealt with in the House when he spoke for three hours, together with "one or two proposals to which he had no time to refer," is a sufficient indication that he realises that he has not had what is called a "good Press." The newspapers, as I have said, are by no means friendly, and it is rather ominous that Mr. Lloyd George's "second thoughts" are tucked away in the *Times* between the Estate Market column and a paragraph about "A Drifting and Waterlogged Mine."

The "proposals and discussions" have fallen flat. Led by the *Times*, the Northcliffe papers are talking to the Prime Minister in no uncertain voice of critical disapproval. Their attitude towards him and the Coalition generally is somewhat like that expressed in one of Rochefoucauld's "Maxims":—"We are not enemies, but we are no longer friends."

The plain truth of the matter is that the country is seriously alarmed at the financial situation, as disclosed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (mentioned in a recent article) when he declared that we are on the verge of bankruptcy. Why, it is demanded, should we be spending 4½ millions a day? To make matters worse for the Government, evidence of official waste and extravagance are coming to light and are helping to fan the fires of criticism.

NEWSPAPER OPINION.

The *Mail* says the Prime Minister's failure to announce definite measures of retrenchment "shows that he has no grip of the situation" which is such a "source of anxiety and danger to the public." The *Times* states that "on the subject of national finance, which transcends all others in importance he (Mr. Lloyd George) was vague and unconvincing." The *Morning Post* is reminded by the Prime Minister's speech of "another famous oration delivered by another great economist":—"Annual income," said Mr. Wilkins Micawber to Mr. David Copperfield, "twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen six—result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six—result misery." The blossom is blighted, the leaf is withered, the God of day goes down upon the dreary scene, and in short, you are floored for ever. As I am! And that, says the *Post* was much the advice and much the position of the Prime Minister.

There is no occasion to multiply quotations. It is sufficient to say that there is dissatisfaction with the failure of the Government to grapple with the problem of national finances. The opportunity

for the expression of public opinion in the House of Commons is withdrawn till the re-assembling of Parliament in October; but, all the same, the demand is made that the Prime Minister must use some of that extraordinary energy, which raised him in wartime head and shoulders above everyone, to cut down expenditure in the most ruthless way. One direction in which this should be done, it is said, is in connection with the war in Russia, which is costing the country nearly two millions a week. Another is the demobilisation of Government offices in which there are still half-a-million clerks. "We have demobilised the Army," says the man in the street, "and we must now demobilise the Bureaucracy."

Of course, it would be quite a mistake to assume from this presentation of the state of opinion that the country is in active revolt against the Government. Things do not move so swiftly as that. What is happening is that, in accordance with the practical British way of looking at things, it is seen that we cannot go on spending 4½ millions a day with an income of 2½ millions. It is a case of cutting one's coat according to one's cloth; and, therefore, if the present Government shows itself unable to reduce expenditure another will have to be found which can.

After all, this is in itself a proof—the best proof possible—that the country is returning to a sound and stable condition of things in a political and economic sense. The critical spirit which is as the breath of life of an enlightened Democracy, although partially suppressed of late by Press censorship and other causes inseparable from war-time, is again awakening. That most elusive but irresistible force which we call public opinion is being asserted again. And from this it can be inferred that the political instinct in England is as sound as ever it was. Moreover, there is this to be noted: that as the working classes are more clearly understanding the real position threats of strikes on a big scale are receding into the region of the remote and nebulous. The common-sense of the people in the mass is too much for the wild men whose plans for "direct action" are only a thin disguise for revolution.

TWO-DAY CRICKET.

It is by no means surprising that next summer we shall see a return to the system of playing three-day cricket matches in the County Championship. For some time it was evident that the experiment of two-day matches was doomed to failure. The decision to revert to the previous arrangement was officially reached at a meeting of the Advisory County Cricket Committee held at the Oval, Lord Harris being in the chair. The attendance included representatives of all the first-class counties.

Discussing this question with a journalist friend who has reported first-class cricket matches every season for many years for one of the great news agencies, I asked him for his opinion on the subject. "To sum it up in a sentence," he said, "two-day cricket is slavery." He pointed out that the strain on the players is excessive. A man will start playing in the forenoon and continue till about 7.30. By the time he has his bath and his dinner, it is time to go to bed. Next day the routine is much the same; and further (as frequently happens), when an eleven having finished a match, say, in the West of England, has to travel to Yorkshire or to Kent for another match next day, the journey overnight robs the players of proper sleep. Obviously neither amateurs nor professional cricketers can maintain their form for first-class cricket under these conditions. A man playing regularly soon gets stale. Besides, the chief argument that was used in favour of two-day matches—that the public would show a greater interest in the game—is hardly borne out by this season's experience.—H.B.

Countess Hoey Stoker, says the *World*, is an interesting and cosmopolitan little personage, oriental in appearance, with the quaint charm of a figure of a piece of lacquer, but occidental in her ways and ideas. She is the gayest of social butterflies, and gives frequent and highly amusing parties, sometimes in London, sometimes with her sister, Countess Kean, at her "fascinatingly ugly" house at Wimbledon. She is a picturesque figure in processions and fancy dress dances, with her Chinese costume and pearl headress. It is a problem with many people how to address her. She likes to be called Lady Stoker. Her English husband, Captain Stoker, who has served throughout the war with the R.A.S.C., is a great traveller, and made a fortune in sugar on East.

IMPRESSIONS OF HONGKONG. CANTON AND MACAO.

THE THREE PLACES
COMPARED.

[BY A NORWEGIAN VISITOR.]

[Mr. Michael Hansson, a Norwegian, Judge on the Mixed Court of Appeal at Alexandria, Egypt, and a brother of Mr. E. C. Hansson, a Commissioner of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, since retired, visited the Far East, in the summer of 1913, and stayed for some time in Hongkong. In Norwegian papers a series of letters from his pen have attracted wide attention. Below we give a translation of the last part of Mr. Hansson's final letter.]

Hongkong, Canton and Macao form a triangle on the China coast, Canton being situated some distance up the Canton river, Hongkong and Macao on either side of its entrance. From Hongkong one gets to Macao by steamer in 2 hours, to Canton in 6 to 7. With the latter city there is also communication by rail. To digress a moment I refer again to the piracy in China. On board of both the big English steamers on which I travelled to Canton and Macao I noticed armed guards marching up and down the decks, and the first-class accommodation as well as the bridge and officers' quarters were separated from the rest of the ship by heavy iron railings. Why? Because it has happened that pirates have disguised themselves among 2nd. and 3rd. class passengers and, when the vessel was well out on the open sea, have suddenly commenced operations. Smaller vessels in these waters never feel quite safe; even now-a-days they are sometimes captured by pirates.

Canton is the second largest city in China. It is, perhaps, more intensely Chinese than any other city. About 150,000 people live on boats on the river, while about 800,000 live within the city walls where the streets, practically speaking, are nowhere so broad that with arms outstretched one cannot touch the houses on both sides. As many of the houses are quite high it is evident that the destroying influence of the sun on the germs in the streets is limited to a short time of the day only. And when, as occurred this year, heavy floods inundate the whole city one can imagine the sanitary conditions under which the population lives. Canton gives one the impression of a mighty ant hill, consisting, apparently, entirely of shop-keepers.

Contrasted with busy Canton, Macao seems all the more sleepy. This old Portuguese Colony—the Portuguese, it will be remembered, were the first foreigners in China, where they acquired a foothold in the 16th century—resembles an idyll of medieval times. The town is pretty and cosy, the climate excellent. The sea-breeze keeps the temperature cool even in summer. In Macao, as in their other colonies, the Portuguese have intermixed with the natives. The well-to-do class are Sino-Portuguese. It is comical to watch the young half-caste swells. They are not good looking. It would appear that neither the Portuguese nor the Chinese have gained by the mixture. Macao is a wealthy town. Whence does it derive its revenues? From gambling! It is the Monte Carlo of the Far East, with no less than 19 authorised gambling establishments. They are not hidden away; on the contrary, they are adorned with flowers and wreaths, and big sign-boards hang out with the name of the owner or establishment, and underneath in English: "1st. Class Gambling-house." It is early in the forenoon that my guide conducts me through three of these houses, and the seats at the gambling tables are already well occupied. The population of Macao is rather industrious after all! Lots of people, mostly rich Chinese from the neighbouring towns, spend their week-ends at Macao. The Chinese are much given to gambling and will stake even their last cash with the greatest sangfroid.

The third corner of the triangle is formed by Hongkong, and a comparison of this place, on the one hand, and Canton and Macao, on the other, forces itself upon one because the difference between them is so overpowering. The Chinese are both industrious and intelligent, but they are lacking in method and organisation. In consequence, Canton is topsy-turvy, unhealthy, and liable to conflagrations. The Portuguese are also intelligent, but they have fallen asleep on the laurels of earlier great deeds, and have been weakened by inner strife and corruption. The spirit of enterprise has left them. As a result

one finds Macao sleepy, but smiling, and with possibilities undeveloped, as it has remained for centuries; Hongkong, on the contrary, is the result of the well-planned and far-sighted policy of an energetic and tenacious race. If ever there be an occasion when one may speak of forming something of nothing, or very little, Hongkong is an example. True, it has an excellent harbour splendidly equipped by nature—the English, as I have pointed out elsewhere, have a sure eye for good anchorages. The great harbour of Hongkong lies safely sheltered against stormy weather and the sea, and with its narrow entrance is easy to defend. When, however, one comes to look at its possibilities for the founding of a city it has, everything against it. Hongkong is an island, and a very steep island at that, rising to a height of 1,800 feet. In this connection I may mention that a cable tramway—the French "funiculaire"—in eight minutes takes one 1,400 feet up the mountain—not a bad performance.

When in 1841 the English took over the island and its immediate neighbourhood there was not a tree to be seen anywhere, now there is everywhere luxuriant vegetation and woods. The place was full of fever and so unhealthy that the English more than once thought of giving it up. Now the fever is kept down, and Hongkong is considered a healthy place of residence. Even that part of the population which lives and stays downtown does not appear unhealthy; but, of course, it is preferable to live up on the mountain, as the majority of the Europeans do. Up on the Peak it was a pleasure to see how well the children looked. And the town itself—it was originally a tiny Chinese village; now it is a highly modern city with 350,000 to 400,000 inhabitants—clean, well organised, pretty. In many places the town crawls, so to speak, up the mountain side; in others, they have had to encroach on the sea-shore to obtain room.

A courteous acquaintance offers to take me for a ride in a motor-car. I look up the mountain, and ask myself where in the world is that ride to take place? However, it turns out that one may drive for hours on roads that could not be better. In many places they are blasted out of the mountain side or built across rocky prominence and along hills, and the blasting and road-making still continue. The network of roads is steadily being enlarged. The car passes up and down, and every now and then, as one turns a corner, the character of the scenery changes. There are magnificent views of many islands that in many respects remind one of Norway. Really, it is quite lovely in Hongkong—lovely during daylight with the sea, the rocks, and all the green-clad islands basking in the sun; lovely, also, at night whether one stands on the Peak and gazes at the illuminated town and harbour down below, or one is afloat in the harbour and views the star-like lights against the dark mountain side.

Hongkong has become a prominent centre of trade. As a shipping port before the war it ranked, if my memory serves me, rightly, third in the world as regards tonnage. And the town is rich. Enterprising Chinese figure largely in the business of the port and, to a greater extent, perhaps, than the European merchants, are making large fortunes. Hongkong as it stands to-day may be humiliating to Chinese national pride, but, in truth, considered from other points of view the Chinese have lost nothing over Hongkong. Hongkong to my mind is imposing.

ASIA BANKING CORPORATION.

It was announced on September 2nd, by the Asia Banking Corporation that the New York State Banking Department had authorized an increase in the capital stock of the Corporation from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000; at the same time, it was arranged that the surplus should be increased from \$500,000 to \$1,100,000. A certain amount of the new stock was set aside for the Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago, National Shawmut Bank of Boston, and the Guardian Savings and Trust Company, Cleveland, which institutions were invited, and expressed a desire, to become stockholders in the Corporation. The banks named will, together with the banks who were the original stockholders, centre their efforts in furthering the fast-increasing volume of trade between the United States and China, which is the prime purpose of the Asia Banking Corporation, with its six branches in vital trade sections of the Far East.

HONGKONG WEDDING.
GLEDINNING—HILLIER.

At St. John's Cathedral, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Percy Gledinning, chief inspector of the Hongkong Tramway Company, was married to Miss Elsie Susan Hillier, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hillier, of Auburn, N.S.W., who arrived in the Colony on Monday by the s.s. *St. Albans*.

The bride motored to the Cathedral in the company of Mr. Walter Gledinning, who gave her away. Her dress was of ivory crepe de chine, trimmed with pearls and georgette love knots, and she wore a beautifully embroidered veil over a Dutch cap of an uncommon and tasteful design. Her bridesmaids were the little Misses Patricia and Aileen Hynes, daughters of Mr. Thomas Hynes, Superintendent of Mails, G.P.O., and Mrs. Hynes. Their frocks were of pale pink pique, crepe, prettily trimmed with georgette and pearls. Their picture hats were trimmed with pale pink and sage blue, and they carried baskets of pink roses. Mr. Charles Fook acted as "best man."

The Rev. V. E. Copley Moyle performed the marriage ceremony. When the register was signed, Mr. J. W. White, at the organ, played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." After this, the newly-married couple and the guests repaired to the residence of Mr. Walter Gledinning, the bridegroom's brother, where a reception was held.

Mr. T. Hynes, in proposing the health of the newly married couple, said the bride had come from the land which produces nuggets and other precious things and he had no doubt that, in the days to come, the bridegroom would find that he had obtained a very precious thing indeed in his Australian bride. He wished them all the prosperity and good-luck possible and hoped that their married life might be long and happy.

After a very convivial time, the bride and bridegroom left for Macao and Canton for their honeymoon. They were the recipients of a number of presents. The bridegroom gave the bride a handsome pendant set with pearls, and the bride presented the bridegroom with a gold nugget tie-pin. The bridegroom gave each of the bridesmaids a gold brooch set with a ruby.

HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.
SINGAPORE COMMENT ON THE
RECENT APPEAL.

In the course of an article headed "Educational Needs," the *Straits Times* says:—

"The appeal on behalf of the Hongkong University for the prompt subscription of one and a half million dollars in order to carry out various necessary extensions has an interest for Malaya. A Hongkong paper in endorsing the appeal says confidently that it will certainly produce results in this country, and with their well-known generosity in the matter of education there is no doubt that subscriptions will be forthcoming from the wealthy Chinese here—this without allowing the scheme for the erection of Raffles Centenary College to suffer. The immediate response there has been to the invitation to subscribe for the college shows how in the matter of providing local educational facilities the Government here has lagged behind public requirements. The public is only too ready to subscribe to any scheme of educational advancement that is put forward, and merely the lead of the Government is awaited. Judging by the large subscriptions which have already come in there will be no difficulty in raising the two million dollars which the people of Malaya have to provide before the Government contribute a like amount. Wealthy members of the community have given in their thousands, and the smaller subscriptions will come in just as readily. Sir Arthur Young expressed the hope that the college would in due time lead to a university for Malaya. While every body shares this hope, the probability necessarily lies well in the future. Meanwhile the immediate necessity is to make primary local education such as will lead naturally to what will be provided at the college. It is no use having a college if the primary schools do not fit their students to go to it. With regard to the higher branches of learning the Hongkong University must for some time remain the centre to which the most ambitious youth of the country will turn."

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending October 11th is as follows:—

	Receipts for week	Aggregate receipts for 41 weeks
This Year	\$15,800	604,808
Last Year	14,244	569,240
Increase	1,556	35,568

THE SECRET SOCIETY CASE.
GOLF CLUB CADDY-MASTER
DISCHARGED.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, the Golf Club caddy-master, was charged, on remand, with keeping an unlawful Society, of which another caddy was charged with being a member.

A schoolboy stated that he was invited to join the Society on payment of a fee of \$2.50. He was ordered not to divulge the secrets of the Society under pain of being stabbed to death. He was taught a peculiar whistle by the second defendant (an exhibition of which he gave in Court at the request of Mr. Lindell) for the purpose of calling together the members in case of emergency. He had seen the documents (produced) posted up on the walls of the club. When he took the oath of secrecy there was a crowd of people present.

Cross-examined by Mr. Davidson (for the defence) witness stated that he had seen the first defendant on previous occasions at Happy Valley, and knew the man was the caddy-master at the Golf Club. He did not know whether all the people present on the day he took the oath were caddies. The first defendant had not spoken a word to him about the Club.

Witness at this stage contradicted his previous statement, and said the first defendant spoke to him.

Mr. Lindell: You told me just now that first defendant asked you to join the club?—Witness: Yes.

Mr. Lindell: You tell me one thing and Mr. Davidson another. Speak the truth.

Witness: First defendant asked me to join.

Continuing, witness said it was to the first defendant's benefit to deny having seen him before. He saw him on April 1st.

Mr. Lindell: A very good day! Witness stated that when he entered the clubhouse the first defendant was sitting there. Witness added that he was not a frequent visitor to the club.

The second defendant said that he made witness' acquaintance while playing football. The witness used to be a frequent visitor at the club.

Inspector Kent stated that the witness was telling lies when he stated that he was not a frequent visitor to the club because witness had told him a different story.

Witness stated that he was afraid to speak, but he could not give any reason for his fear.

A coolie who swept the floor of the school-house was told by the Magistrate that there was nothing to be afraid of if he spoke the truth. He said that a person employed in the Public Works Department engaged him as coolie of the club.

Inspector Kent stated that that man had absconded.

Witness, proceeding, said that the absconding man was manager and accountant of the club.

Mr. Lindell remarked that he did not think the witness was telling the truth.

Witness stated that the second defendant slept on the club premises. First defendant asked the witness on the first of each month to pay their subscriptions so that he might pay the rent of the club room. Witness only worked in the club for one month and then left, as his wages had not been paid.

Witness contradicted his statement several times and Mr. Lindell exclaimed: "You are telling lies all the time, you miserable scoundrel!"

Inspector Kent stated that witness had told him that he had received \$5 as wages.

Continuing, witness stated that he had been a member of the society previous to being engaged as coolie. The first defendant paid the rent of the club-room when the society was started. There were seventy members of the society and they were all caddies. Some of them used the club as a boarding-house; in fact it was a boarding-house for caddies, and the subscription was 40 cents a month.

The second defendant stated that there were forty members who were not caddies. Inspector Kent stated that on September 18th at 9 p.m., by virtue of an arrest warrant, he went to the third floor of No. 50, Tai Yung Street, and found four persons there. He searched the premises and in a drawer found three Chinese documents and a Sanitary Board notice. There was a sign board in the accountant's room. There was a sleeping accommodation on the floor for six persons. There was a quantity of furniture in the place, which was illuminated by twelve electric bulbs.

The first defendant denied managing the society or even being a member of it. The second defendant stated that he collected subscriptions on behalf of the club, but did not administer any oaths with a knife. He wished to call witnesses to prove this.

Mr. Lindell discharged the first defendant as there was no evidence against him.

The case against the second defendant was remanded.

THE TOKAWAN ARMED ROBBERY.
EXPERIENCES OF WOMEN SCHOOL TEACHERS.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, two Chinese were charged with being concerned in an armed robbery at the London Mission School, Tokawan.

A Chinese school-teacher stated that she was sitting in the hall with another woman and an old man on October 4th, at 8.30 p.m., when four men made their appearance, armed with daggers. One of the intruders was placed on guard at the entrance to the house, while the other robbers bound witness and her companions, and imprisoned them in an out-house with an armed guard at the door. Witness appealed to the men not to bind her so tightly and received a stab wound in the arm. The two prisoners assisted in the tying. When the robbers left the place witness asked the other teacher to bite through the rope with which her (witness) hands were bound. This the other teacher tried to do but failed. The old man, however, managed to free himself, after which the trio attempted to open the door but found it locked. They managed to open a window, and raised an alarm, which brought the Police on the scene. The robbers took 27 cents from her pockets. She identified the two prisoners at the Hunghom Police-station on October 7th, and was quite sure they were two of the robbers.

Another teacher stated that while in the kitchen she heard the last witness call out, "What do you want?" A voice replied, "We have come here to search for illicit opium." She then noticed a man pushing the last witness into the kitchen. The old man, who went out when he heard the noise, was also pushed into the kitchen. Witness tried to conceal herself, but she was seen and was treated in a manner similar to the others. They were all tied up and then the robbers demanded the keys from her.

The case was remanded till to-day.

IS IT ANOTHER FEUD?
ONE COOLIE MURDERED, ANOTHER
SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.

Hongkong appears to be seething with strife at the present moment. Feuds between various gangs of Chinese labourers are common and murders seem to be almost every-day occurrences. The latest news is that a street coolie has been murdered and another seriously wounded at West Point.

A quarrel, it is stated, broke out amongst street coolies on Saturday morning from some unknown cause, and the Police, arriving on the scene, dispersed the mob. An apparent calm pervaded West Point on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, and the Police were congratulating themselves on the cessation of trouble when a report was received that a man had been murdered. Inspector Macdonald and a party of constables immediately hastened to the spot, and discovered the dead body in a side-channel opposite 43, Waterloo Street. Another man, severely wounded, was lying near by.

An examination of the corpse revealed three deep stab wounds on the body and a long stab wound on the scalp. The dead man appeared to be about 40 years of age. The deceased has not yet been identified. The second man had two stab wounds in the back and another on the scalp, from which blood was flowing profusely. He was immediately removed to the Government Civil Hospital, and is not expected to live.

The Police do not know whether these outrages are due to a coolie feud or are a Triad Society affair.

SNATCHING CASES.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, a Chinese was charged with snatching a gold bangle from a child's wrist.

Inspector Davitt stated that an amah was carrying the child along Possession Street when defendant committed the offence. He was seen by a constable and arrested.

Mr. Smith sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour, ten strokes of the birch, and four hours' stocks.

A Chinese was charged with snatching a purse.

Complainant stated that he was one of a crowd of Chinese gazing at a dead body lying in Queen's Road, when he felt somebody feeling his pockets. He turned round and saw defendant extracting a purse.

Defendant said that the purse was lying on the ground and he picked it up. Defendant, who had two previous convictions against him, was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour and ten strokes of the birch.

CORRESPONDENCE.
THE SHANGHAI BOWLERS' VISIT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—May I crave the publicity of your columns to express my heartfelt thanks to the Hongkong community for the splendid way they have entertained the Shanghai Bowlers during their stay in the Colony. Nothing was left undone to give us a happy time, which we have had, and we will always look back on our visit with pleasure, and look forward to the time when we can reciprocate their kind efforts. Yours truly,

F. L. MARSHALL
(Captain, Shanghai Lawn Bowls team).
Hongkong, October 14th, 1919.

SPORT.
HONGKONG HOCKEY CLUB.

At an inaugural meeting, held at the Hongkong Cricket Club pavilion, yesterday evening, under the presidency of Mr. L. G. Bird, it was decided to form a Hongkong Hockey Club.

The Chairman proposed that a Committee should be appointed to draw up rules and to approach the P.W.D. for the allotment of a ground.

The following officials were elected:—President—Mr. L. G. Bird.

Captain—Mr. B. Evans.
Vice-Captain—Mr. C. Hodgson.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. E. J. R. Mitchell.

A suggestion was made that if four teams were forthcoming a Hockey League should be formed and arrangements be made for the completion of the matches before the commencement of the Tennis League season.

A match has been arranged for next week between the Staff and Departments and the new club, which is virtually the successor of the Defence Corps Hockey team.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

At the Magistracy, yesterday, a Chinese was charged with wounding and cutting a girl.

Inspector Gerrard stated that the defendant was an ex-soldier of General Luk Wing-ting's army, and fell in love with a girl in Hongkong. He lured her to 106, Temple Street, and made her his concubine. The couple lived happily for some time, and then defendant ordered her to go out and procure money for him. He lived on her immoral earnings till a few days ago, when she refused to support him any longer as she was ill. The man insisted, and on Monday night, as she still refused to go out, he cut her breast and her finger with a knife. The Police were informed and arrested him.

Defendant stated that the wounding was the result of a mistake. He had a quarrel with the girl over some money, and then threatened to commit suicide. With this intention he picked up a knife and cut his coat open. The woman rushed up to him and, struggling to take away the knife, cut herself.

Mr. Lindell remanded the case for a week, as the injured woman is in hospital.

A young girl was knocked down by a motor-car in Queen's Road on Sunday and was seriously injured.

The master of a licensed fishing junk has reported that one of his *foks* fell over-board and was drowned while lowering a sail. Another *fok* tried to save the man but without success. The body has not been recovered.

A Chinese woman, aged 22 years, attempted to commit suicide on Monday night by eating a quantity of hair gum. She was removed to hospital. The reason for the rash act is said to be that her lover refused to support her any longer.

Two unemployed firemen quarrelled on Saturday night over some financial matter. Words led to blows, and one man attacked the other with a dagger, inflicting a wound in his back. Police-whistles were blown and the assailant disappeared. The injured man was removed to the Government Civil Hospital.

This girl is a rather notorious character and has been before the Magistrate on several occasions," said Inspector Gerrard when charging a defendant at the Magistracy, yesterday, with hawking. The girl had been fined on two previous occasions for similar offences.

When asked whether she liked going to gaol so often, the girl replied: "It is not that I like to go to gaol, but because I am unable to pay the fine." She was fined another \$25, with the alternative of four weeks' hard labour.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
FOR TENNIS WEAR.WHITE AERTEX
TENNIS SHIRTS

The ideal shirt for Sports being so cool and easy fitting, with collar attached.

\$4.25 each.

WHITE COTELLA
SHIRTS

Made up from the same material as AERTEX but it is not cellular.

2 styles in stock, one with open pointed Collar attached and one with plain neck band.

\$4.50 each.

THE ACE
WHITE LEATHER
BELT

This belt adjusts itself to every movement of the body. Lined inside with white canvas, so cannot soil the trousers. One inch wide.

\$1.25 each.

WHITE CANVAS
TENNIS SHOES

Made with red rubber soles.

\$8.50 pair.

WHITE CANVAS
ROPE SOLE SHOES

For use on Pucca Courts, a very hard-wearing shoe.

\$4.50 pair.

WHITE COTTON
UNION SUITS

Just the suits for TENNIS WEAR. for the Coming SEASON.

Smartness of fit and comfortable to wear.

THE NEW YORK \$2.75 SUIT.
THE ANON \$2.75 SUIT.

NOTE.—When ordering state height and chest measurement.

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GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

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IDEAL for travellers, a machine that you can always have in your pocket. Given away at \$18 and \$25 each.

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Distributed by—
UNIVERSAL IMPORT & EXPORT CO.

FRENCH or SPANISH.

QUICKLY, EASILY & DELIGHTFULLY
ACQUIRED.

The Famous "CORTINA" LANGUAGE-RECORDS and text books, will teach you on your Gramophone, in spare moments at home.

Demonstrations and particulars from

Anderson Music Co.,

LIMITED,
16, Des Voeux Road.

Tel. 1322.

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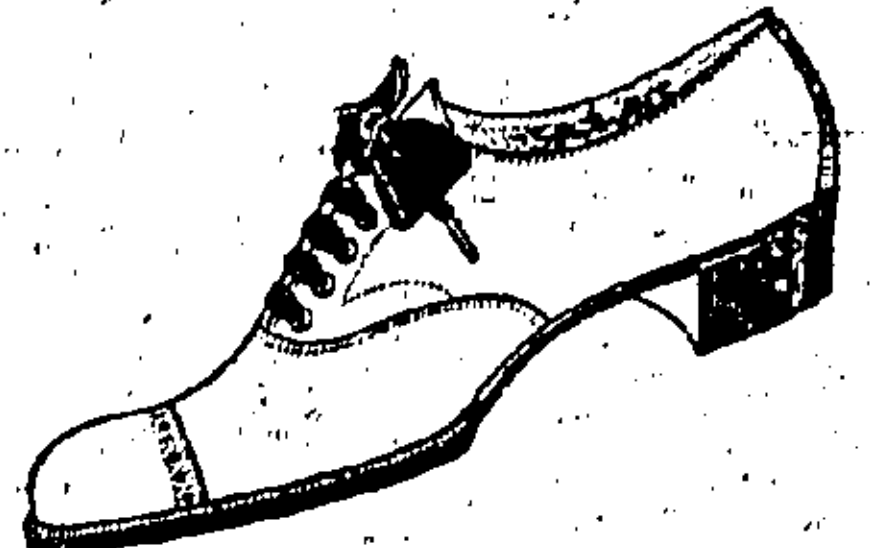
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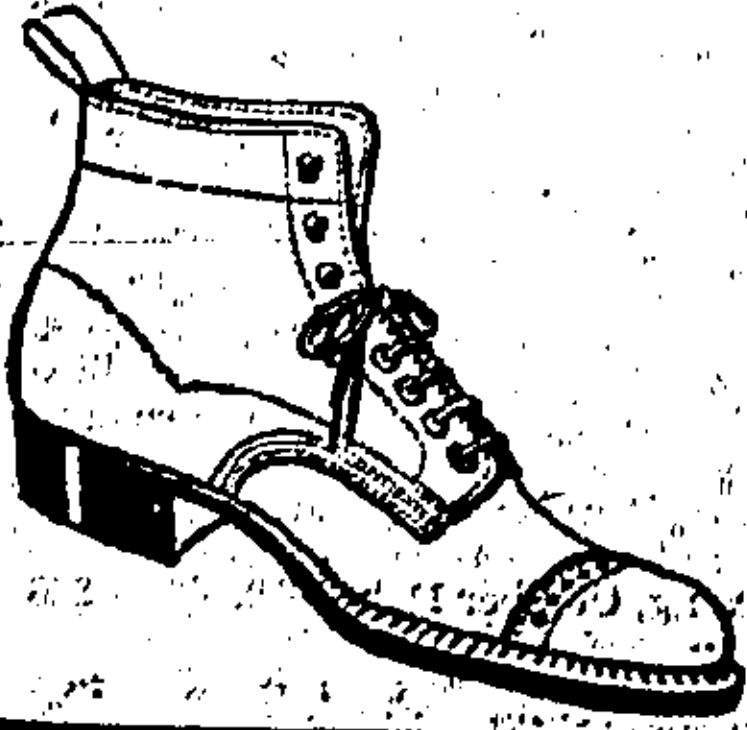
GOLF, MARCHING,

etc., etc.



IN
BLACK or BROWN
GLACE KID, CALF,
etc.

PUMPS, SLIPPERS.



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AGENTS FOR
HIGH-CLASS
ENGLISH & AMERICAN
FOOTWEAR.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

TO LET.
FIVE ROOMED FURNISHED HOUSE
 on the Peak.
 Apply—Box No. 1390.
 Care of "Daily Press" Office.
 (13-0)

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS FOR SPECIE current in TIENTSIN, up to and for the sum of \$500,000 current in Tientsin, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11.30 A.M. on October 16th, 1919.

The amount accepted is to be placed by the Tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Tientsin, so as to be available on October 17th, 1919.

Persons tendering to state the amount of Dollars current in Tientsin per £100 for Telegraphic Transfer on the London Commission of H.M. Treasury, London.

The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC."

Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.

Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that, having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III, Cap. 45 and 41, Georgia III, Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills).

The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by any incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company.

Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, A.P.D.

F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt. Col., Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D.

His Majesty's Treasury Office, Hongkong, October 15th, 1919. (13-1)

BY ORDER OF THE OWNERS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE

VERY VALUABLE BUILDING SITE

Situate at

KOWLOON POINT,

TSIMTSATSUI,

WITH LARGE FRONTAGE ON

KIMBERLEY ROAD,

KOWLOON,

RIPE FOR IMMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT

TO BE SOLD BY

PUBLIC AUCTION,

ON

THURSDAY,

The 30th day of October, 1919, at 12 o'clock

Noon

by

Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT

at his Auction Rooms in Duddell Street,

The Property consists of:—

All that piece or parcel of ground situate at Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, and registered in the Land Office as THE REMAINING PORTION OF KOWLOON INLAND LOT NO. 1164.

The Property is situate in a very desirable position, ready for immediate building purposes.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from,

Messrs DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON & HARTSON,

1, Des Vaux Road Central,

Hongkong.

The Vendors' Solicitors

Or From

Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT,

The Auctioneer. (13-2)

AMERICAN AND MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship

"CITY OF FLORENCE"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 2nd October will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 25th October, 1919, or they will not be recognised.

All Broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on 25th October, at 9 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by THE BANK LINE, LTD., General Agents, Hongkong, October 15th, 1919. (13-3)

WANTED.

By Old Established Firm in South of China an ASSISTANT who is conversant with the inspection of Raw Silk.

Apply to—X.X.X.

Care of "Daily Press" Office. (13-7)

INTIMATIONS

THE HONGKONG CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB.

THE OPENING CRUISE of the Season will be held on SUNDAY next, OCTOBER 19TH, to an anchorage half-mile East of Channel Rocks. Race programmes are being sent to Members. (13-8)

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

SUBSCRIPTION GRIFINS FOR THE SEASON 1919-1920.

THE Lists in connection with the above are now posted at the RACE COURSE and the HONGKONG CLUB. COST PER PONY Hongkong \$300—cf. The Lists will positively close on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 1919. By Order, G. W. GEGG, Acting Clerk of the Course. Hongkong, October 8th, 1919. (13-5)

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons, with the exception of persons of Chinese race, wishing to leave the Colony must have in their possession a VALID PASSPORT. Passengers not in possession of passports will not be allowed to leave the Colony.

All persons, with certain exceptions, who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE, 1918.

Forms of Registration, giving the particulars required, may be obtained at the G.P.O. and all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

E. D. C. WOLFE, Captain Superintendent of Police. Hongkong, September 22nd, 1919. (14-0)

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 20th day of October, 1919, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Mong Kok, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

Boundary Measurements.	Area in Acres.	Area in Square Feet.	Area in Square Yards.	Area in Square Meters.
East 130 feet, West 130 feet, North 130 feet, South 130 feet.	1.46	100,000	11,363	10,000

PUBLIC AUCTION

By Order of the MORTGAGEES

MR. GEO. P. LAMMERT has received instructions to sell by Public Auction.

On FRIDAY,

the 31st day of October, 1919, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at his Sale Room in Duddell Street, Victoria Hongkong.

The Steamship "ASIA"

1081 tons now lying in Kowloon Bay in the Harbour of Hongkong together with all the furniture, Store equipment and appurtenances now on board.

IN ONE LOT

This ship is a Chinese ship registered in Canton and is constructed of steel. She has the following dimensions namely, Length 292 feet, Breadth 32 feet 6 inches, and Depth 18 feet, 9 inches, and her speed is about 10 knots.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale and for orders for inspections of the vessel please apply to—

Messrs. KUNG YUEN, 223, Wing Lok Street, or

Messrs. DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON & HARTSON, 1, Des Vaux Road Central, Vendors' Solicitors, or

to Mr. GEO. P. LAMMERT, The Auctioneer. (13-3)

A. G. DA ROCHA.

AUCTIONEER, SURVEYOR AND GENERAL BROKER.

Queen's Road Central, Telephone No. 2332.

FAVOURED with instructions from The Concerned,

will sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, October 16th, 1919,

at 2.15 P.M.,

at his Sales Room,

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AND EFFECTS:

Wardrobes, Desks, Chairs, Chest of Drawers, Dressing Tables, Bookcases, Armchairs, Curio, Crockery and Glassware, Brass Ornaments, Vases, Pictures, Ice Boxes, Bedsteads, Clocks, Typewriters, Overmantels, Sideboards, Napkins, Tablecloths, Bedsteads and a long line of Sundries.

Terms—Cash on Delivery. Hongkong, October 11th, 1919. (13-6)

INTIMATIONS

THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the Office of the General Managers, Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., 17, Des Vaux Road, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, passing the Accounts, and electing Directors and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from October 11th to October 16th, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board, JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers. Hongkong, October 2nd, 1919. (13-3)

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED, will be held at the HONGKONG HOTEL on MONDAY, the 20th day of OCTOBER, 1919, at Noon, for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving, the draft new Articles which will be submitted to the Meeting. A copy of such Articles and a copy of the existing Articles may be seen at the Office of the General Managers in Alexandra Buildings, Des Vaux Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong. In such copy the portions of the proposed new Articles which differ from the old Articles are indicated by underlining in black ink.

Should the Meeting approve of such Articles with or without modification, the proposed Extraordinary Resolution will be proposed:—

"That the new Articles already approved by this Meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof, be and the same are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company to the exclusion of and in substitution for all the existing Articles thereof."

Should the Resolution be passed by the required majority, it will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution to a second Extraordinary General Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated this 9th day of October, 1919.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, General Managers. (13-7)

GULA-KALUMPONG RUBBER ESTATE, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT

THE SHARE REGISTER of the above Company will be CLOSED from 29th September to 17th October, 1919, both days inclusive.

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS, Colonial Register. Hongkong, September 28th, 1919. (13-1)

TO LET.

NO. 4, Conduit Road, 8 ROOMS and out-houses. Possession November 1st.

Apply to—

F. M. GUTIERREZ, "THE BIRD CAGE," or at Messrs. SHERMAN TOMES & Co. (13-9)

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD., Alexandra Buildings. (13-5)

TO LET, FURNISHED.

NO. 12A, THE PALM, for 18 months from about November 1st next. Six Rooms, Radiators, Grass Lawn Tennis Court.

Apply—

PALMER & TURNER, Alexandra Buildings. (13-5)

FOR SALE.

"MOUNT GOUGH" No. 121, The Palm, 6-Roomed House with Large Garden.

Apply—

LOXLEY & CO., York Buildings. (12-5)

THE CALL FOR ECONOMY

and

THE COST OF LIVING.

To those who realise the urgent necessity for greater economy and to those who are confronted with the great problem of the increased cost of living, we would suggest that one of the foremost factors in reducing expenses is the intelligent and consistent cultivation of home gardens.

GRACA & CO.,

Dealers in Vegetable and Flower Seeds.

No. 10, WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG.

P.O. Box 630. (13-7)

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

THE PREMIER

SCOTCH

OF THE FAR EAST

FOR 25 YEARS

POPULARITY MAINTAINED

BY ITS

EXCELLENT QUALITY

NOT BY EXPENSIVE

WORLD-WIDE

ADVERTISING

A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

HONGKONG.

BIRTH.

SAYER.—At Church Street, Shropshire, on August 31st, to Mr. and Mrs. G. R. SAYER, a son. (13-8)

MARRIAGES.

MADDOCK—FRIEDLEWSKI.—At the British Episcopal Church, Fochow, on October 2nd, by the Right Rev. Bishop Hind, WILLIAM HUMBERTSON, son of the late William Rokeby Maddock, to MARIE LEAG, youngest daughter of Asher Friedlewski, of Lodz, Poland.

PENNECART—MOONEY.—At the British Consulate, Shanghai, on October 4th, and afterwards at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. Dean Walker, CECILIA, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Mooney, Shanghai, to ARTHUR THOMAS, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Pennecart, London.

DEATHS.

MACPHER.—At 5, Singapore Road, Shanghai, on October 8th, MARGARET MACPHER, wife of Mr. T. Macphail.

QUINN.—At the French Hospital, Hongkong, on October 11th, THOMAS SIMON QUINN, aged 31 years. (Shanghai papers please copy.) (13-9)

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VAUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 15TH, 1919.

BRITISH TRADE PROSPECTS.

It is a welcome change to turn from the gloomy forebodings which have been our daily portion for months past to Sir Auckland Geddes' cheerful outlook upon British trade prospects. The fear that Great Britain's commerce is likely to suffer seriously from German, Japanese and American competition the President of the Board of Trade regards as chimerical—providing the nation puts its shoulder to the wheel. Our own difficulties are so well advertised that we are very apt to overlook those of other nations. There has been labour "unrest" all over the world, but this fact has been obscured by the prominence given by Russia to the strikes in Great Britain. We have heard comparatively little, for example, of the steel workers' strikes in the United States, though it has assumed very serious proportions. On the other hand we have heard much of America's wonderful industrial activity, and of Germany's plans for robbing us of our commercial supremacy by the superior

organising ability of her business men and the patient devotion to duty of her manual workers. Sir Auckland Geddes reminds us that America has her own troubles to contend with, and that her exports are hindered by exchange. Unlike Great Britain, she is not well-placed for world trade—geographically, we presume. From a consideration of all the circumstances, Sir Auckland is convinced that America is unable to drive British trade from the markets of the world. This conclusion, as we showed in our issue of yesterday, coincides with that recently reached by two experts. Mr. E. MACKAY EDGAR, head of the firm of Spiering & Co., whose knowledge of the United States extends over a quarter of a century, has very little fear of American competition generally. In regard to shipping he predicts that ten years hence we shall have recovered all the "leeway" due to the war, and American shipowners will be very gladly transferring their vessels to the British register. For this he gives six reasons, amongst them being the higher cost of construction and operation ruling in America. A similar view is taken by Sir Joseph DAVIES after a visit to the most important shipbuilding yards of the United States. "I have come back," he says, "satisfied that we can always hold our own in shipbuilding unless a great change is brought about on the other side." After all, it is only to be expected that long experience and natural facilities should count for something. So far as the cost of construction is concerned Japan compares unfavourably with the United States, and according to the British Consul-General at Kobe, some shipbuilding companies are diverting some of their efforts to the manufacture of machinery rather than maintain their whole establishment for the purpose of turning out ships. Japan, of course, labours under the disadvantage of depending upon outside sources for nearly all her raw materials. She possesses no iron mines and her coal is very expensive. Wages, also, are advancing rapidly, and although they are still considerably below those obtaining in the United Kingdom, Japanese workmen, as Sir Auckland Geddes points out, are far less skilful than British. Only recently Mr. E. T. Cawne, the Commercial Attaché to the British Embassy in Japan, laid stress upon this fact and mentioned that comparatively little research work is being done—in other words, the Japanese are content to be merely imitators—and most industries are still in the initial stage. Consequently, Japanese goods are inferior in quality to British, though considerably cheaper, and, being of different grade, are generally speaking non-competitive. The Lancashire cotton industry, which has had a record year of prosperity despite the concessions to labour, is confident of its ability to meet all-comers. As regards Germany, Sir Auckland Geddes assures us that careful investigations show that it will, perhaps, be many years before she will be able to resume her place amongst the great manufacturing nations of the world. She lacks raw materials, and her workmen, hopeless and dispirited, are not showing that industry with which they are commonly credited. Advances from unofficial sources, also, indicate that Germany's return to a normal existence is proceeding very slowly. While the fall in the exchange value of the mark may tend to restrict imports and to assist exports it increases the sum which the nation has to pay abroad to such an extent as to outweigh these apparent advantages. Nevertheless, Sir ARTHUR STEEL MAITLAND, who speaks from the experience gained as Minister for Overseas Trade, describes it as a foolish under-estimate of German capacity to believe that Germany's war paralysis will last long, and he prophesies that when it is past the process of combination will be found to have developed considerably. Fortunately, however, the experiences of the past five years have done much to create a consciousness in Great Britain of the problems of foreign trade with the result that there is a greater willingness than formerly amongst manufacturers to co-operate in their common interest.

Bishop Lander and Mrs. Lander are expected to return to the Colony by the Empress of Russia about October 25th.

An "At Home" is being held at the Club Lusitano, on October 21st, in celebration of the sixth anniversary of the "Associação Portuguesa de Socorros Mútuos."

Three cases (three deaths) of gastro-enteritis were reported in the Colony on Sunday and Monday.

Mr. Denman Fuller, writing from Llandudno on August 13th, states that he is feeling fairly fit but has still to be very careful. It is impossible to obtain a passage back to the Colony till April.

The marriage will take place shortly of Mr. C. A. Grimes, of the P.W.D., youngest son of the late Mr. S. Grimes, and Mrs. Nicholl, of Southampton, and Miss H. Heckt, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. H. Heckt, of Herne Bay.

The third annual aquatic sports of the local division of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade will be held on Saturday next. There are two 100 yards' races open for outside competition; one for members of the V.R.C. and the other for members of the naval and military forces.

The American Consul-General has received instructions from the Department of State indicating that hereafter American citizens returning to the United States and bearing passports issued or renewed within six months will not be required by the United States Government to have such passports verified by Consular officers.

The following are the eleven entries for the V.R.C. Harbour swimming race to-morrow evening:—Mrs. Richmond, Mr. J. R. Johnstone, Mr. D. Lyon, Mr. J. R. Soares, Sgt. Strange, R.A.M.C., Mr. D. Laing, A. B. Frank (H.M.S. Tarantula), Mr. A. N. Other, Mr. S. A. Marcal, Signalmen J. F. Cooke (H.M.S. Tarantula) and Mr. G. Jack. It is not certain whether Mr. Johnstone will be able to compete; it is hoped he will be in condition by to-morrow. It will be noticed that last year's winner, Mr. A. Logan, has not entered—unless he is hidden under the sobriquet of "A. N. Other."

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

The following telegrams have been received by the American Consulate-General, Hongkong, from the Manila Observatory:—

6 p.m., October 13th.

Cyclone or typhoon east of the Southern Visayas or Northern Mindanao, moving W. or W.N.W.

3 p.m., October 14th.

Cyclone or typhoon over the Eastern Visayas, moving W. or W.N.W.

CANTON NEWS.

October 14th.

PEACE PROSPECTS.

In regard to the question of peace, the Peking Government is requested to dissolve the Parliament in Peking in proof of its sincerity.

It is reported that Ting Nai-ching, a northern representative, has recently carried to General Luk Wing-tung a letter from the President, Hsu Shih-chang, congratulating him on his birthday and offering to restore him to the position he held before the outbreak of hostilities if he agrees to conclude peace with the Peking Government.

A message from Nanning states that General Luk Wing-tung has returned recently to his native village, Mo-ming, after inspecting a joint parade of the new troops in Lungchow. The Civil Governor, Chan Ping-kwan, who followed General Luk to Lungchow has returned to Nanning, and been appointed Luk's plenipotentiary to meet the representatives who have been sent to consult Luk. Certain delegates, however, from the Northern leaders who were sent to confer with Luk have been taken to see him personally owing to the importance of the matters they wish to discuss.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

In view of the reports of the increase of troops in Kiangsi and Fukien, the members of the Military Government have ordered the Southern leaders at the front to prepare to meet any attack, but not to assume the offensive, as the Military Government will not accept the responsibility for renewing hostilities.

Commander Li Kan-yuen has requested permission to remove certain big guns from the Tigris forts to the Nan-hung front for use when in case of need.

Commander Chan Kwing-ming, in Fukien, has declared martial law in Cheongchow and Chuenchow, in Fukien, and has ordered other preparation to be made.

A foreigner reports that a certain military leader has ordered a large quantity of ammunition through a certain foreign firm. Delivery has been promised within a very short time when \$200,000 has been paid.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY AND CIVIL GOVERNORSHIP.

The Speaker of the Provincial Assembly has notified the members that a special session is to be opened for them, to

ALLIES' STERN WARNING TO GERMANY:

PRINCIPLE OF GERMANY'S RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE UPHELD:

ALLIED WARSHIPS CARRYING LETTISH TROOPS.

ALLIES' CONCILIATORY NOTE TO RUMANIA.

M. LENIN IMPRISONED BY HIS COLLEAGUES.

STARTLING RECORD OF SINN FEIN OUTRAGES.

LATEST CABLES.

[REUTERS' AGENCY.]

THE BALKANS.

A FRANCO-ITALIAN-RUMANIAN ALLIANCE URGED.

PARIS, October 12th.
Le Temps correspondent at Bucharest states that the Rumanian Press is urging a Franco-Italian-Rumanian Alliance in view of guaranteeing peace in the Balkans and forcing Hungary to gravitate to the Alliance, with the consequent influence as regards Germany.

DISTURBED IRELAND.

SINN FEIN RECORD FOR 40 MONTHS.

LONDON, October 12th.
The official return for the period from May, 1916, to September, 1919, shows that 1239 Sinn Fein outrages occurred in Ireland, including:

Murders	16
Firing at people	66
Firing into houses	30
Incendiarism	55
Assaults	60
Raid for arms	478

PUNISHING THE GUILTY. COUNT BISMARCK TO BE ARRAIGNED.

PARIS, October 10th.
A Havas message says:—
Warrants for the arrest of German officers and soldiers guilty of crimes during the occupation, have been issued by a Court-Martial sitting in Lille.
One of these warrants is made out in the name of Count Bismarck, grandson of the "Iron Chancellor," who is accused of murder and incendiarism. His extradition will be demanded from the German Government.

THE PEACE TREATY. FRENCH RATIFICATION.

PARIS, October 12th.
It is expected that the decree promulgating the ratification of the Peace Treaty will be gazetted on October 13th, thus completing the ratification by three great Powers and officially ending the state of war.

When this event occurs, the pre-war social life of Paris will probably be restored, permitting the night life cafes and restaurants to be resumed.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, October 11th.
The silver market is quiet.

EARLIER CABLES.

RUMANIA AND HUNGARY. ALLIED NOTE TO RUMANIA.

PARIS, October 11th.
The Allied Note to Rumania is moderate and conciliatory. It reviews the points on which Rumania disagrees with the Entente, and explains the reasons for the insertion in the Treaty of clauses relating to minorities.

It provides that the Special Commission which was appointed to-day shall examine the Rumanian requisitions in Hungary and declares that the Allies do not consider that the Friedrich Government represents the will of the Hungarian nation.

It also emphasises the inconveniences arising owing to the Rumanians not signing the Austrian Treaty.

RUMANIANS EVACUATE HUNGARY.

BUDAPEST, October 12th.
The Rumanian military authorities announce that the Rumanian troops have evacuated Hungary, west of the Danube, without disorder.

LATEST CABLES.

FIGHTING IN THE BALTIC STATES.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE YAMBURG.

STOCKHOLM, October 12th.
An Estonian communiqué states:—
We captured Yurbino and Lutski. A detachment of Russians captured Yamburg.

NORTH-WEST RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS.

LONDON, October 12th.
A North-West Russian communiqué says:—
Tanks enabled the troops to cross the Luga River in the vicinity of Yamburg.

RIGA CONSIDERABLY DAMAGED.

HELSINGFORS, October 12th.
A telegram from Reval states that the situation in Riga has not changed since Friday evening. The town is considerably damaged by the bombardment. Parts are in ruins.

An enemy attempt to cross a bridge was repulsed. Many civilian casualties have occurred owing to hostile aircraft dropping bombs.

Lettish troops remain on the right bank of the Dwina, having decided to await assistance.

Colonel Bermond's forces are advancing on a broad front between the Dwina and the Gulf of Riga.

ALLIED WARSHIPS CARRYING LETTISH TROOPS.

COPENHAGEN, October 12th.
A telegram from Helsingfors states that an Allied squadron, accompanied by many Estonian ships, left Reval on October 10th, for the Gulf of Riga, presumably taking Estonian troops to assist the Letts.

A telegram from Berlin states that 50,000 Lettish troops are landing in Libau with the help of British warships. It is expected that they will be employed for a flank attack on Colonel Bermond's Army.

VON DER GOLTZ WILL EVACUATE.

PARIS, October 12th.
Le Temps correspondent at Berlin states that General von Der Goltz has undertaken that his troops shall evacuate the Baltic States, including Major Bischof's detachment which has joined the army attacking Riga.

ALLIES' STERN REPLY TO GERMANY.

PARIS, October 12th.
The Allies' reply to the German Note in regard to the evacuation of the Baltic Provinces says that it is difficult not to believe that the German Government's delay in ordering the evacuation was not deliberately arranged in order to make the execution of the order practically impossible.

It is apparently really impossible to explain otherwise its refusal to recall von Der Goltz. It suggests that von Der Goltz was sent back to the Baltic States to complete the organization which now enables the German Government to plead that the German troops in the Baltic States do not recognise its authority.

If von Der Goltz acted contrary to his instructions, he ought to have been punished. Failing satisfactory explanations in this connection, the Allies are unable to admit the German Government's contention that it has done all in its power to withdraw the troops.

After referring to the attack on Riga and the formation of the German-Russian Government in Courland, the Allies' reply declares that the Allies will uphold the principle of the German Government's entire responsibility in regard to the carrying out of the evacuation, and intend to maintain entirely all the coercive measures already mentioned so long as the evacuation has not been finally undertaken and carried out with all desirable speed.

An Allied Commission, headed by a General, will be sent to control the execution of the measures for the evacuation. The suspension of coercive measures cannot be considered until this General has informed the Supreme Council that the evacuation is proceeding normally.

The German Government is requested to reply as soon as possible. The Allies will hold it responsible for any act of hostility on the part of German troops against Allied representatives in the Baltic Provinces.

EARLIER CABLES.

LETTS DETERMINED TO HOLD RIGA.

COPENHAGEN, October 12th.
The Lett Press Bureau publishes a message from Riga dated October 10th saying that under strong pressure by superior German forces, Lett troops abandoned the left bank of the Dwina. The enemy is now in the suburbs, but the Letts hold the right bank of the Dwina.

Estonian armoured trains arrived at night to assist the Letts, who are determined to do their utmost to hold Riga until the arrival of reinforcements.

ALLIES MAY SEIZE BALTIC SHIPPING.

BERLIN, October 11th.
According to the Stettin Abend Post, a telegram from London has reached the German Government, having been retransmitted by the Baltic Port authorities, stating that owing to the attack on Riga, free passage permits to German ships in the Baltic are provisionally withdrawn. All ships now in the Baltic must be recalled and no other ships will be permitted to put to sea. All vessels encountered in the Baltic are liable to seizure.

GERMAN MINE-SWEEPERS RECALLED.

COPENHAGEN, October 12th.
A message from Berlin semi-officially confirms the Stettin Abend Post telegram. It appears that the telegram from London was sent by the Inter-Allied Naval Commission, which also ordered the recall of the German mine-sweepers.

GERMANS BOMBARDING RIGA.

STOCKHOLM, October 11th.
An Estonian communiqué reports that the Lettish Government has left Riga and gone to Rõdnapõ. Lettish troops retired across the Dwina and blew up the bridges, taking up their position at the bridgeheads.

Artillery and machine-gun fire is now going on between the Lett and German troops. The latter are bombarding Riga with artillery and aeroplanes.

LETTISH TROOPS JOIN BERMOND.

BERLIN, October 12th.
The Lokal Anzeiger's correspondent at Mitau says many Lettish troops have joined Colonel Bermond.

BRITISH FLEET LEAVES RIGA.

The Lokal Anzeiger learns that the British Fleet has departed from Riga.

BERMOND DECLARED A TRAITOR.

STOCKHOLM, October 12th.
General Judenitch, in an Order of the Day, has declared Colonel Bermond a traitor and has expelled him from the Army.

RUSSIA.

LENIN'S ASSASSINATION DENIED.

HELSINGFORS, October 12th.
A message from Reval says the report that M. Lenin has been assassinated is denied, but it is stated that he has lost all influence and has been imprisoned by his colleagues lest he try to flee from the country.

BOLSHEVIKS ARREST JEWS IN PETROGRAD.

LONDON, October 12th.
Reuter is informed that the Zionist Executive Committee in Petrograd and other prominent Zionists were recently arrested by the Bolsheviki on account of Entente sympathies.

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW BUDGET.

MELBOURNE, October 8th.

In the Federal House of Representatives, Mr. Poynton, introducing the budget, said that the revenue in 1918-19 was £42,750,000 and the expenditure £45,000,000.

The war expenditure totalled £31,500,000.

He estimated a deficit in 1919-20 of £3,500,000.

The public debt of the Commonwealth and the States was £708,000,000. There was no new taxation, but the old-age and the invalid pensions had been increased from 12s. 6d. to 15s. weekly.

The Government's shipping programme provided for 20 steamers of 6,000 tons each, of which three have been launched, four vessels of 2,000 tons each, all of which are being built, and five steamers of 12,000 tons each, to be constructed in England.

The net earnings of the Commonwealth line were £7,500,000.

GERMAN-AUSTRIA.

FAILURE OF FOOD SUPPLY IMMINENT.

VIENNA, October 12th.

In the National Assembly, the Food Minister declared that the danger of the collapse of the food supply was imminent.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

CONCLUSION OF THE WESTERN CANADIAN TOUR.

WINNIPEG, October 12th.

The Prince of Wales was entertained to luncheon by the leading citizens and also representatives from Edmonton, Saskatoon, Calgary, Vancouver and other cities he has visited during his tour.

A speech was made by the Prince who announced, amid vociferous cheers, that he was arranging to purchase a small ranch in Alberta, with a view to having a home of his own in the West. He hoped, incidentally, to help a few ex-Servicemen by employing them thereon.

The atmosphere of Western Canada appealed to him intensely and he would return to the old country realizing that the Western provinces were going to play a most important part in the future of the British Empire.

The line the development of Western Canadians took would influence the future destinies of the British Commonwealth enormously.

The luncheon completes the official portion of the Western Canadian tour, where, as the Lieut-Governor said to-day, "bonny Prince Edward has won all hearts."

His Highness now proceeds to the great day belt to visit the silver mines at Cobalt. After this he is returning to the manufacturing districts of Ontario.

ADMIRAL JELICOE'S TOUR.

WELCOME AT SUVA.

SUVA, October 8th.

Admiral Jellicoe has arrived. He was met by a fleet of sailing canoes and welcomed by native chiefs.

In a speech, he suggested that Suva would probably be the Pacific naval base.

AVIATION.

THE U.S. AERIAL DERBY.

NEW YORK, October 11th.

In the Trans-Continental Aerial Derby, Lieutenant Maynard was the first to arrive at San Francisco from Mineola. It is unofficially estimated that the actual flying time was 2,701 miles in 1,492 minutes and 55 seconds.

Major Spatz and Lieutenant Kiel have arrived at Mineola from San Francisco, being the first east-bound fliers to complete the flight.

THE PARIS TO MELBOURNE FLIGHT.

ISSY LES MOULINEAUX, October 12th.

The aviator, M. Poulet, started at 8.15 this morning, for Geneva, on the first stage of the Paris to Melbourne flight.

LATER.

M. Poulet has returned owing to fog, after covering 50 kilometres.

"FEEBLE LABOUR MEMBERS" WASTED OPPORTUNITIES.

Half of the industrial troubles from which England is suffering to-day (says the Daily Mail), are due to the feebleness of the Labour Party in the House of Commons.

At the last general election the Labour members were returned as the largest political party outside the Coalition. Their duty was the duty of forming an Opposition. Though small in numbers they had great forces behind them, and if another general election took place to-day their voting strength would probably be doubled.

Never had a party a greater opportunity to justify its existence and earn political fame. What have the Labour members done? The answer is only too clearly: nothing. As a party they have shown no parliamentary ability, and as individuals they are mostly unknown.

Very few newspaper readers indeed could name off-hand even six of the 62 members who form the Labour Party. Mr. Adamson has been thrust into prominence as a compromise chairman of the party. He is a genial but utterly unimaginative soul, whose kindness of heart is but a poor political substitute for hardness of head. Mr. Bruce is still weighed down by the official talk he gave when he was Under-Secretary at the Home Office. Mr. Will Thorne seems to have lost interest. Only Mr. Clynes preserves any vitality.

The Labour Party had two possible ways of making itself effective. In the first place, it might have produced some definite plans for dealing with the labour problems of to-day. It has produced none. In the second place, it might have thundered in the House of Commons, a warning to the Government and the country of some of the dangers ahead. It might have forced the Government into an early attempt to deal with the producers; it might have secured the Powerfooters who for so long deprived the working man of his beer; it might have checked extravagance in public departments. But it has done none of these things, and the consequences are what we see to-day.

Had the men who were sent to Parliament for that purpose lifted up their voices in emphatic protest concerning the grievances of the masses, they would have compelled the Government to pay attention, and more important than all, they would have kept the country quiet.

The history of the Irish Party has for them today a singular significance. For twenty years the Nationalists, numerically about the same strength as the Labour Party to-day, kept Ireland quiet in proportion to the vehemence of their own outbursts in the House of Commons. After every one of the Irish "scoops" the Irish village politicians felt that something was being done in the cause of freedom, and there was, therefore, no need to kill the local police.

Man. Then came the war, and the Irish Party, whose tactics, well understood at Westminster, might have been maintained abroad were silent. In consequence, they have been annihilated at the polls, and lacking representation at Westminster, the Irish people are becoming ever more desperate in their efforts at political expression.

Great Britain is not so emotional, but the process is the same. Despairing of any effective action by the Labour Party, the Triple Alliance declares in favour of "Direct Action." No Labour M.P. threatens food profiteers with the guillotine, so local riots begin. Labour in the House of Commons is still content to "wait and see" what the Government are going to do about nationalization, so the strikes are spreading in the coal-mines.

Will men may well hope that at the next general election Labour members of more vigour may be returned to Parliament. Let us have, if need be, bold men with strong views, and let us have them vigorously stated in the House of Commons. That is the right place for their expression, and the more frankly they are uttered there the less will be the clamour of local agitators and the fewer strikes.

AN INJUSTICE TO SCOTLAND.

APPEAL TO THE LEAGUE.

In a telegram to Senator Lodge, George J. Bruce, as a representative of the Scottish National Committee composed of native Scots who want the right of self-determination, asked the committee to hear him in urging the Scottish cause.

Mr. Bruce, who is staying in New York, alluded to a memorial prepared by Scotchmen which he said had been ignored by the Peace Conference at Paris. The telegram was as follows:—
"Hon. H. C. Lodge, Foreign Relations Committee, Washington, D.C.
"The Scottish National Committee, consisting of the leaders of organizations representing a majority of the constituencies of Scotland, prepared a national memorial and protest against Scotland being excluded from the Peace and League of Nations Conference. This was presented to M. Clemenceau and members of the conference and was extensively and favourably noticed by the European Press. The memorial having been ignored at Paris, we respectfully ask your committee to hear our plea for Scotland's right to self-determination. I am one of the signers of the memorial and a member of the Scottish National Committee, having arrived here, desire to appear before your committee in this behalf."
"George J. Bruce."

The Foreign Relations Committee took no action on Mr. Bruce's telegram.

WHY EUROPE DOMINATES THE WORLD.

PHYSICAL ADVANTAGES OF THE CONTINENT.

WASHINGTON.

"Did you ever ask yourself why is Europe important?" inquires a bulletin from the National Geographical Society.

"South America may have revolutions, nations elsewhere may topple, China, with her 400,000,000, may overturn a prehistoric monarchy, and the world goes about its business undisturbed."

"Let a crack-brained nobody shoot at a European prince and every continent rocks with the Armageddon that ensues." The bulletin quotes from a communication of Dr. Edwin H. Grosvenor, who tells why the smallest but one of the six continents produced "such political monopoly of universal leadership."

IS EUROPE A CONTINENT?
Of about the same size as Canada or Brazil, one might question, regarding merely territorial extent, whether Europe should be called a continent at all. Dr. Grosvenor writes:—

"Siberia exceeds it by more than a million square miles. On the map of the Eastern Hemisphere it appears insignificant. It is dwarfed on the south by the ponderous bulk of Africa, while Asia, to which it clings, thrusts its disdaintful away toward the northwest."

"Europe does not equal one-fourth of the land surface and is less than one-fifth of the entire surface of the globe, yet upon it dwell 350,000,000 human beings, more than a fourth of all mankind. Nor are all Europeans found in Europe. They and their children have occupied and populated the whole Western Hemisphere, of which they were the discoverers. They have partitioned and subdued to themselves nearly the whole of Africa. With the exception of China and Japan they control all Asia and all the islands of all the seas. During the last twenty-five centuries from them as from a focus have radiated the art and science and thought of the world."

"In the physical advantage Europe possesses are revealed the causes which have given to Europeans and the descendants of Europeans their unquestioned superiority.
"Almost the whole of Europe is situated in the northern half of the north temperate zone. Its extreme northern point, the North Cape, is 19 degrees from the Pole. Tarifa, its extreme southern point, is 36 degrees from the Equator.

MUST LABOR TO SURVIVE.
Nowhere, except in the furthest boreal limits, does excessive cold stunt body and mind. Nowhere does excessive and continued heat sap energy and enervate the will. No spontaneous prodigality of nature removes the necessity of exertion and induces sloth.

"Here, where the air invigorates, man must labor if he would survive. The rewards of labor are reasonably sure, but something more is necessary than to satisfy one day's needs. The periodic succession, 'the rhythmic swing' of the seasons, where winter invariably follows summer, compels him to take thought and make some provision of food, shelter and clothing for the days to come. Even slight labor and little forethought, neither of which can be escaped, force him toward emergence from the primitive and purely animal state toward higher existence."

"The climate of western Europe is determined by the Gulf Stream, the mightiest, most rapid and most beneficent of ocean currents. Its heated mass, deflected eastward by the bank of Newfoundland, reaches the shores of Europe, creating on its way the exhaustless fisheries of the North Sea."

"As no formidable barrier to breezes from the sea is interposed, the prevailing winds of Europe, loaded with ocean moisture, spread hundreds of miles inland, relieving the excesses of the seasons and fertilizing the soil."

HAS LONGEST COAST LINE.

"The coastline of Europe is remarkable for its length and its availability. South America is twice and Africa three times as large, and yet, although Europe is handicapped on its eastern or Asiatic side, it has a longer coast-line than that of these two continents combined. North America has double the area of Europe. But, except for what stretches along the inhospitable Arctic, the sea front of the two is nearly the same."

"Europe is intersected by numerous vast, narrow, half-inland gulfs and seas which endlessly break its contour and multiply its length."

"No other body of water rivals the incomparable sea which forms the southern boundary of Europe—the Mediterranean."

"The dwellers on the peninsular shores of Greece and Asia Minor were impelled by the circumstances of their lot to venture upon, gradually to understand, and finally to master the sea. And the sea gave back something greater than mere material returns."

"Inevitably the old land kingdoms, Egypt, Assyria, Persia, India, submerged the individual in the mass. As inevitably, in the men who singly or in groups of two or three wrestled with and overcame the sea, the sense of personal independence was roused. This was both achievement and revelation. It was the impelling motive at Marathon, and in all the struggles for freedom since, down to the present day."

COMMISSION'S REPORT ON THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

The Royal Commission which has been inquiring into the decimal system of currency has completed the taking of evidence, and is considering its report. It is understood that the report arrived at by the Commissioner is non-committal, and that no legislation is likely to result. The Commission was appointed to consider the question in connection with the bill introduced by Lord Southwark in the Upper House some time ago, under the auspices of the Decimal Association.

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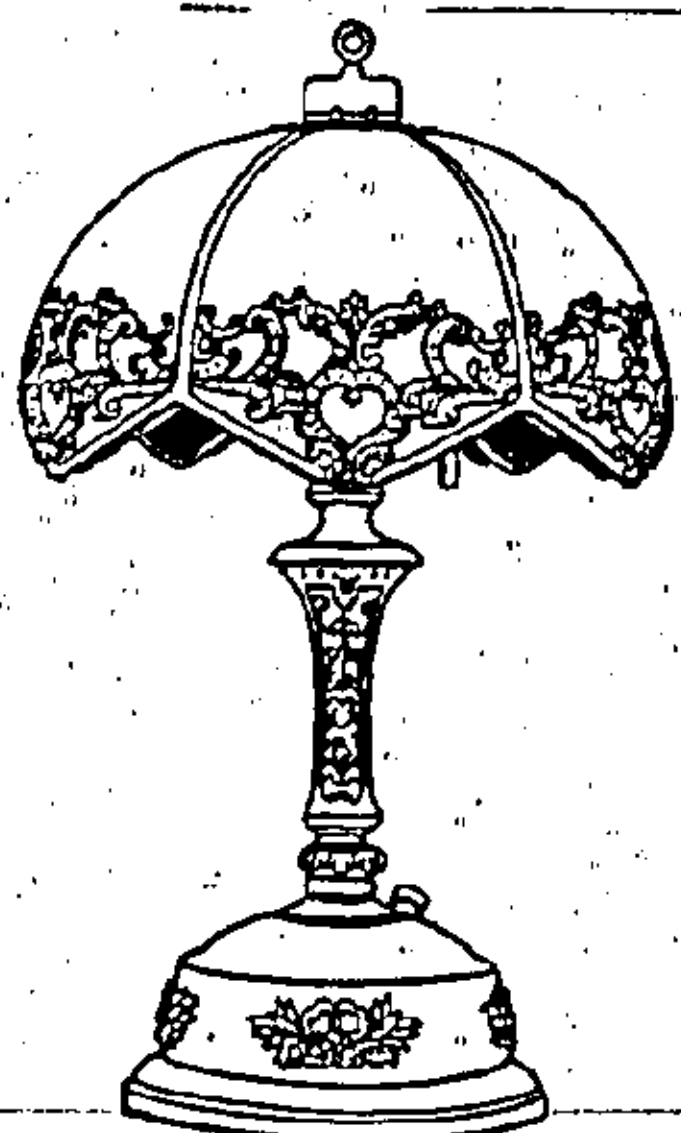
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THE DEVIL!

PASTOR THREATENS TO CALL A STRIKE FOR MORE PAY.

The Rev. J. R. Stratton, pastor of the fashionable Calvary Baptist Church, New York, in a sermon recently dealing with the personal responsibility of the devil for profiting and Labour unrest, declared:—

"Only a lingering sense of duty, altruism, and service prevents American clergymen from forming a union, calling a strike, and telling the country to go to hell."

"Almost everybody in the world has gone on strike, except the preachers and undertakers. I suppose we shall be the next to fall into line. Certainly preachers have grievance enough on the score of under-pay, and if we were to move in a line with the spirit now prevailing in the world we should soon get together in a joint convention and pass resolutions about our grievances ending with:—

"Therefore be it resolved that we preachers of America do hereby announce to our churches and to the general public that we will no longer submit to the harsh, heartless treatment to which we have been subjected from time immemorial; that we will not even grant three days' postponement with a view to possible arbitration, but here and now we declare to our churches and to the general public that unless we are given immediately an eight-hour day and a 50 per cent. boost in salary we will go on strike and let them all go to hell."

Daily Express.

"WILL YOU DINE WITH ME?"

GENERAL SEELY'S WIRELESS TALK TO 8,000 AIRMEN.

The wonders of the new wireless telephony were demonstrated at the Houses of Parliament on August 12th, when members of both Houses in one of the Committee rooms were able to talk with the observers of aeroplanes flying at a height of several thousand feet and at distances of ten to twenty miles.

Aeroplanes were not concerned in the first experiment, a conversation with a wireless telephony station on the ground at Apperfield Court, Kent, about twenty miles from London. Gramophone tunes sent from Apperfield were plainly heard. At one time waves from the Eiffel Tower, were caught.

Later aeroplanes rose from Apperfield Court and communication was opened with two of the observers. Sometimes, when the conditions were particularly favourable, the voice reproduced in the Committee room was almost overpoweringly loud.

General Seely, the Air Minister, was present. One of the messages sent was an invitation by General Seely to the two observers and their pilots to meet him at dinner.

General Seely said, "Will you and your pilot dine with me to-night at the House of Commons?" to an observer in a Bristol fighter flying at the height of 8,000ft. Back came the observer's reply, audible to every one in the room: "Thank you, General Seely. We shall be very pleased to." And they did.

It was explained that wireless telephony can now be practised from an airship up to a distance of 165 miles or from an aeroplane up to 100 miles. The postal machines from Henley to France are now fitted with the system.

In March, 1918, said General Seely, there were on the western front two squadrons fitted with wireless telephony. The enemy heard English speech in their wireless receivers, and, not knowing to what uses the new invention might be put, avoided our squadrons.

HOW THE OPAL CAME TO BE CONSIDERED UNLUCKY.

"Do you know why opals are considered unlucky? Of course you don't. It is a safe venture that none of your acquaintances will be able to tell you. Opals are not unlucky—no more unlucky than a diamond, a ruby or any other gem. But the superstition that they bring misfortune is universal. And not one person in a million knows why. The secret is found in the history of the opal.

In ancient times, and in the Middle Ages the opal was one of the most highly esteemed of gems. It was regarded as a talisman and it was supposed to bring good luck and to make its wearer beloved. In fact, there was nothing to prove that bad luck ever was attributed to the wearing of the opal. However, in John Ruskin's "Deception" is found the story of the life of its reputation.

Sir Walter Scott was the creator of the opal myth. In "Anne of Geirlestone," one of his novels written in the early part of the 19th century, he introduced an opal which was supposed to be endowed with magic powers and which brought disaster and tragedy to all who came within its influence. The story of the master-romancer of his time was widely read and the superstition that all opals are unlucky was born. It travelled around the world and became firmly fixed in the popular imagination.

The Lightning Ridge opal fields in Australia were discovered a little after Sir Walter set the myth going. When Queen Victoria ascended the throne in 1837 her coronation gifts included some magnificent opals, sent by her loyal subjects in the island continent. The young Queen was delighted with the gorgeous gems. She declared nothing so beautiful could be unlucky.

She began, then, a crusade to break down what she regarded as an absurd superstition, and her personal efforts on behalf of the opal continued throughout her life. She wore opals in profusion on every State occasion. She gave them as wedding gifts to her daughters. She sent them as bridal presents to foreign princesses. She never neglected an opportunity to show her contempt for the myth and to praise the desirability of opals and their iridescent loveliness.

But, despite the efforts of this royal champion, the myth persists vaguely throughout the world to-day, when superstition is supposed to have been consigned to the limbo of forgotten nonsense. It has cost dealers in opals hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars, and has robbed one of the most beautiful of gems of a popularity that was its natural right.

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FREE SPEECH FORBIDDEN.

We have received from an official source (says *The Daily Telegraph*) the following details of Bolshevik rule. Every statement is vouched for, and is only issued after careful and minute verification by agents of the British Government. The official introduction to the account is as follows:—

"Many amiable persons in this country labour under two delusions about Russia at the present time. They believe that if we were to withdraw entirely from the Russian front peace would reign in that unhappy country; and they base this opinion upon the belief that the vast majority of Russians are Bolsheviks. Both views are false. The Bolsheviks impose their will upon the Russian workmen at the point of the bayonet, as a glance at the following notes, recently received from Russia, will show." These are the details:—

On July 9th, last the workmen employed by a firm called the Skorokhod Boot Factory held an unauthorised meeting to discuss the food shortage and the possibility of a change of Government. The meeting was dispersed by Bolshevik armed guards. Three women were killed and several persons wounded. At about the same date 5,000 employees of the Nikol'sevsky Railway held a meeting with the same object, and were dispersed by rifle-firing, the Bolsheviks killing eight and wounding fourteen of the workers.

The above are instances of how the Bolsheviks recognise the right of free speech. The only meetings allowed in Soviet Russia to-day are those authorised by the Bolsheviks themselves. Here are the accounts of two such meetings:—

On July 11th, the Bolsheviks organised a mass meeting of railwaymen, which was held in the Litvinsky Palace, Petrograd. Zinovieff, a prominent Bolshevik, presided, and was supported on the platform by the Commander of the Internal Defence of Petrograd, a Bolshevik named Peters (i.e., the notorious Peter the Painter) and others. The platform was protected by a semi-circle of Red Guards, the entrance to the hall was covered by a couple of machine-guns, and a detachment of soldiers was drawn up behind the audience. The president opened the proceedings, and, after a reference to the food situation, began to speak of politics. Hootings at once commenced, and Zinovieff was unable to finish his speech. A similar fate awaited his Bolshevik colleagues. As each speaker rose he was greeted with cries of "Bolshevik or railwayman?" When the reply was "Bolshevik," the speaker was at once howled down by the exasperated workmen. Those who attempted to continue speaking did so to the accompaniment of such cries as: "Away with the Bolsheviks. We have heard many words but seen no deeds."

ANTI-SOVIETS ARRESTED.

A Menshevik Social-Democrat, named Kamensky, alone succeeded in making a speech at this meeting. He called upon the workmen to overthrow the Soviet Government and convene a Constituent Assembly. He said that if the Bolsheviks remained in power much longer starvation would increase, disorganisation would get worse, and Russia would see neither peace nor liberty. His speech was listened to in absolute silence, and a storm of applause greeted its conclusion. Peters, the next speaker, was howled down, whereupon Zinovieff rang his bell and announced that if the noise continued he would order the Red Guards to take forcible action. At the end of the meeting all who had spoken against the Soviet Government, including Kamensky, were arrested as they left the building.

Another official meeting had been fixed for July 12th. This was to have been a mass meeting of employees at the Putiloff Works. However, it was never held, as the workmen managed to get away from the factory directly work was over. The Bolshevik propagandists, who had travelled down from Petrograd, were therefore obliged to return either without having delivered their oration. Two days later the workmen were outwitted, and the meeting was duly held. On this occasion the factory gates were closed shortly before work stopped, so the audience could not escape. The Commissioner for Propaganda, Lisovsky by name, made a speech, in which he threatened with severe penalties all workmen who attended unauthorised meetings, or were in any way against the Soviets. Armed sailors stood guard over the audience throughout the meeting, and a resolution of confidence in the Soviet Government was passed in silence. Since this meeting work at the Putiloff factory has been carried on under a guard of armed sailors.

FARCIICAL ELECTIONS.

Equally tyrannous are the Bolshevik methods of carrying out elections. At a factory known as the Obukhoff Works, a typical election to the Petrograd Sovdep was recently carried out. The Sovdep is a body composed of Workmen's Deputies, and Red Guards' deputies, and these are elected at the Obukhoff Works in the following manner. Before polling commenced the Works Committee announced that no White Guard supporters would be suffered in the works; that all persons voting against the Bolshevik candidates would be instantly discharged, and would be debarrued from finding work in any other establishment in Russia. The official list of Bolshevik candidates was then read to the men, and duly elected by a counting of hands. Only about a dozen hands were raised. The majority of workmen did not vote at all, though all employees were present. A Red Guard watched the proceedings. Similar scenes occurred at the Putiloff Works and the Skorokhod Factory. Armed sailors guarded the Putiloff Hall, where the

(Continued at foot of next column.)

"NEW GERMANY."

A SLOW RECOVERY.
—ECONOMIC DANGERS.

[FROM "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

ROTTERDAM.

All the information from Germany goes to show that the return to a normal existence is proceeding extremely slowly. Some people there are who declare that Germany benefits by the low rate of exchange, for it is money that acts as a protective tariff so that foreign wares are unable to compete with the home production, and, as exporters, Germans can deliver goods at lower prices than their competitors. It is also said that the German agriculturists are profiting by the protection afforded by the low rate of exchange, a protection higher than any Prussian agrarian ever dreamt of. Foreign products are twice as dear as home wares. These arguments contain a certain amount of truth, but they do not take into reckoning the capital difficulty that the low exchange causes in the payment of the millions which Germany has to pay abroad, multiplying the sum to such an extent that the extra profits by manufacturers and agrarians among their own people cannot make up for it. On the contrary, if a better value in marks is not brought about soon, a dangerous economic crisis may be expected in the autumn.

It will be remembered that a short time ago the German Government, in order to avert the paralysation of railway traffic by the threatened strike, drew out a very large sum to provide cheap imported food for the population. This artificial situation was to last three months. Meanwhile, imports from abroad have not become cheaper nor superfluous; on the contrary, the price of imports has increased in value. Thus, at the end of the three months' period, the price of rationed bacon, rice, etc., will be doubled. This may easily cause a great shock to the unstable social life. A rise in the value of the mark is the only hope. Did the Government speculate on this possibility? If so the miscalculation might prove to have disastrous consequences.

The prospect is the more sombre on account of other dangers threatening. It is feared that the want of coal next winter will be worse than last year's. Not only will the people be suffering cold, but industries will be severely affected. Should the factories again be at a standstill the bitter misery of unemployment will recommence. In Bavaria measures are already being taken to economise fuel. Two-thirds of the schools are to be closed in the winter, and the town woods of Munich are ordered to be felled for fuel. Moreover, a railway strike is still threatening, under Communist agitation. The events in Hungary have by no means daunted the optimistic Communist leaders. The object of the strike, already disclosed, is to get control of the railways into the hands of the proletariat. The Government is forced to keep control by every means in its power if the economic life of Germany is not to be killed outright. Severe measures will have to be taken, as the far-sounding phrases of these agitators have an extraordinary influence on the dissatisfied and unthinking masses. For a long time it appeared as if the Independent Socialists, with their well-disciplined forces, formed a sort of wall of defence against a communistic oligarchy according to the Russian example, but among the Independents the intellectuals are being pushed into the background or carried in a direction they furiously condemned at the beginning of the revolution.

Not only, however, from the Radical side do dangers threaten. The agitation from the Right is gaining an almost desperate character. Especially evil is its anti-Semitic side, even to the extent of a pogrom-propaganda. In the Conservative papers advertisements appear offering prizes for the best pamphlets against the Jews. The Government is far too easy going in this matter. Officials and officers can allow themselves the crassest liberties of expression on the Jews and an aggressive monarchistic agitation without being brought to book. Respect for the army is, indeed, still very great. There is not much "change of heart" noticeable in this respect in Germany. Many people are anxiously awaiting what will happen when the time arrives for the Entente to demand the delivery of culprits from the army for the trial for war crimes. This is one of the things the German Government would rather not think about and hopes will never happen.

workmen were told that there were too many Whites among them, and therefore the Works Committee would not listen to any objections against the official list of candidates. The list was accepted in silence. The Skorokhod workers were told that any opposition on their part would cause a repetition of what happened to them on July 9th. The "election" accordingly passed off without incident, under the rifles of the Red Guard.

This is a sample of what is going on in Russia to-day, and in view of the facts it seems incredible that any man of progressive views in this country can seriously support the Bolsheviks. There is a policy which constitutes the complete negation of all democratic ideals. Whatever the original theory of Bolshevism may have been, in practice it has worked out as one of the bloodiest tyrannies ever imposed upon a nation.

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SHANGHAI	"BINKIANG"	On 16th Oct. Noon.
W. KINAI, CHIAO, NEWCHWANG & TAI	"HUICOW"	On 16th Oct. 3 P.M.
SHANGHAI and TSINGTAO	"CHENAN"	On 19th Oct. 11 Light.
SWATOW and BANGKOK	"LUCHOW"	On 21st Oct. 10 A.M.
MANILA, Cebu & ILOILO	"TAKING"	On 21st Oct. 3 P.M.

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KHIVA	1st November	3rd Dec.	15th Dec.
NOVARA	7th Dec.	8th Jan.	17th Jan.

BOMBAY VIA STRAITS & COLOMBO.

Steamer	Leave Hongkong about	Due Bombay about
DUNERA	15th Nov.	25th Nov.

FOR
CALCUTTA VIA STRAITS & RANGOON.

S.S.	Leaves Hongkong (about)	Due Calcutta about
JAPAN	22nd Oct.	13th Nov.

SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND
YOKOHAMA.

S.S.	Leave Hongkong about	Due Yokohama about
GREGORY APCAR	16th Oct.	28th Oct. (Kobe)
DUNERA	24th Oct.	28th Oct. (Shanghai)
NOVARA	7th Nov.	1st Nov.

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KAGA MARU	Friday, 21st Oct., at Noon.

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TENSHIN MARU	End of October.

CEALOUTTA & BANGKOK via Singapore & Penang.

KANAGAWA MARU	Sunday, 2nd Nov.
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JAPAN PORTS—Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama.

AKI MARU	Saturday, 18th Oct., at 11 a.m.
TANGO MARU	Saturday, 22nd Nov., at 11 a.m.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

SHINGO MARU (omitting Shanghai)	Thursday, 18th October.
NAGATO MARU (omitting Shanghai)	Saturday, 18th October.
TAMBA MARU	Saturday, 19th Oct., at 11 a.m.
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